

What is claimed is:

1. A method for performing an inter-packet data service node (PDSN) soft handoff, comprising the steps of:

5 (a) setting up a channel passing through a target base station controller (T-BSC), a source base station controller (S-BSC) and a source-PDSN (S-PDSN) by establishing a direct channel link between the S-BSC and the T-BSC in an active packet session mode;

10 (b) performing a handoff between the S-BSC, the T-BSC and a mobile station (MS);

(c) transmitting or receiving user packet data exchanged between the MS, and the S-BSC and the T-BSC to or from the S-PDSN through the established channel link; and

15 (d) sending or receiving user packet data exchanged between the MS and the T-BSC to or from the S-PDSN through the established channel link when the handoff is completed.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
20 the steps of:

(e) establishing a channel link between the T-BSC, a target packet control function (T-PCF) and a target-PDSN (T-PDSN) in a dormant packet session mode;

25 (f) releasing the channel link set up between the S-BSC, the S-PCF and the S-PDSN;

(g) releasing the channel link established between the S-BSC and the T-BSC, which is established in the step (a); and

(h) performing a point-to-point (PPP) establishing process and a mobile Internet protocol (MIP) registering process between the MS and the T-PDSN.

5 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein, in the step (c), one of packet data transmitted from the MS to the S-PDSN through the S-BSC and the T-BSC is selected and transmitted to a wireless packet data service network.

10 4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the channel link established between the S-BSC and the T-BSC is an A3 channel link set up by transmitting an A7 Handoff Request message from the S-BSC to the T-BSC.